

As the new year begins so does a new session of Congress. While the next two years will present historic challenges and require many hard decisions, it is a great honor to serve as your Representative in the 111th session of the United States Congress.

You know well the tremendous challenges we face as a nation. Financial instability, the struggle in our culture for goodness and meaning, and international conflict and volatility create uncertainty and threaten our security.

But America is a land of extraordinary capacity. Previous generations met difficult challenges by embracing our nation's foundational values – the ideals of liberty, justice, and goodness. They served our nation with a spirit of sacrifice and purpose, emphasizing hard work, community, and stewardship.

Now is a time for renewal, our chance to build new opportunity. My efforts in Congress are focused on five important areas for our nation's well-being: national security and global stability, alternative energy and environmental sustainability, small business entrepreneurship and rural vitality, patient-centered healthcare reform, and family life and culture.

You may have recently received in the mail a report providing an overview of this work. If you do not have a copy, you may wish to view it at my official website, fortenberry.house.gov. You can access the 2008 Year-End Report by clicking on the "Year-End Review" button along the right-side of the homepage.

While there, you may wish to become a subscriber to the Fort Report, an email newsletter providing information on news important to you and your family. To receive the Fort Report, click on "E-Newsletter Sign Up" and submit your name and email address.

An important part of my work in this new Congress is communicating with you about the great challenges before us as a nation, and your thoughts and ideas about the progress of our work are important to me. Please visit fortenberry.house.gov to review the 2008 Year-End Report, and consider staying in regular touch with my office by becoming a subscriber to the email newsletter, the Fort Report.